

377 SFS changes command, June 30

Lt. Col. Keith Harris, 377th Security Forces Squadron commander, relinquishes command to Maj. Martin Rothrock in a change of command ceremony June 30, 9 a.m., in the Security Forces quad area, behind the security forces administration office building.

Colonel Harris is reassigned to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, where he will be commander of the 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.

Major Rothrock graduated from Marine Command and Staff College, Quantico, Va.

898 MUNS changes command, July 7

Lt. Col. Daniel Courtois, 898th Munitions Squadron commander, relinquishes command to Maj. Kathy Goforth in a change of command ceremony July 7, 10 a.m., outside the 898th squadron operations building.

Colonel Courtois is reassigned to the Headquarters, Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Maj. Goforth serves as the 9th Maintenance Squadron maintenance operations officer, Beale AFB, Calif.

377 LRS changes command, July 9

In a change of command ceremony July 9, 2 p.m., in the Mountain View Club, Maj. Ronald Burgess, 377th Logistics Readiness Squadron relinquishes command to Lt. Col. Kellie L. Davila-Martinez.

Major Burgess is reassigned to Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

Colonel Davila-Martinez is currently assistant chief of staff for operations, plans and security at the 598th Transportation Group, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Rotterdam, the Netherlands.



Photo by Lisa Gonzales

Col. Hank Andrews, 377th Air Base Wing commander (center), along with the entire 377th Air Base Wing are proud to host the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) internship program’s three interns for Kirtland AFB. The HACU program managers and interns from left to right are, Steven Parker, Civilian Personnel director, Clover Hatcher, Melissa Romero, Maialin Steidel, Ricardo Redick, Affirmative Employment manager, and Maj. Rafael Oliva, 377th Contracting Squadron commander.

Base welcomes Hispanic association interns

BY CLOVER HATCHER
Nucleus intern

The 377th Air Base Wing is hosting its first three interns from the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) internship program. Col. Hank Andrews, 377th Air Base Wing commander, recently welcomed Clover Hatcher, Melissa Romero and Maialin Steidel to Kirtland AFB.

The HACU internship program facilitates opportunities for students from hispanic institutions to work for various governmental or-

ganizations.

Ms. Hatcher and Ms. Romero are both students at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and Ms. Steidel is working on her Master’s degree from the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan.

The interns will work in separate departments until the program ends on Aug. 13. Ms. Hatcher is writing for the Nucleus in Public Affairs. Ms. Romero is job shadowing Ricardo Redick, Affirmative Employment manager, and Ms. Steidel is completing rotational work assignments in Civilian Personnel Flight.

Mentoring needs everyones participation

BY JAMES C. BARONE
Air Force Materiel Command personnel director

Air Force Materiel Command is piloting a new Web-based mentoring process until mid-August 2004 called Mission-Driven Mentoring.

Eglin AFB, Fla., and Kirtland AFB, N.M., as well as Barksdale AFB, La., and U.S. Air Forces in Europe, are currently participating in the pilot. In an effort to obtain realistic metrics and first hand experience, Gen. Gregory S. Martin, AFMC commander, has approved broadening the test base to include all AFMC Headquarters staff (military and Air Force civilian employees).

Sorry, this program is not open to contractors.

While participation is voluntary, we strongly encourage everyone to consider joining in this opportunity.

As a mentor, you will have the opportunity to strengthen your coaching skills, demonstrate leadership and contribute to the development of future leaders.

As a mentee, you will have access to a pool of resources able to provide valuable information on the history of a particular subject area, lessons learned, and share experiences not necessarily referenced in books or other education and training materials.

Whether a mentee or a mentor, when you log into this Web site, you will find mentoring tools and guides to facilitate a productive relationship.

We need mentors in every arena and at every level. For example, we need functional mentors, leadership mentors, mentoring in officership, airmanship, leadership, serving as an action officer, partnership, career path counseling, etc. Clearly you can be a mentor whether you are a senior leader, an action officer or an administrative assistant with knowledge, skills and abilities useful to others.

We will measure our participation and seek your feedback on this process as part of our test. Unless you register and participate both as a mentor and mentee, our feedback will be incomplete.

Now this is like an online dating/marriage service. Unless you register, the process cannot bring together mentors and mentees. Using the Web site, mentors are asked to register and complete their biographies by June 21.

At the Mission-Driven Mentoring Web site, select Mentee or Mentor Login from the menu; use Mentor code 409789 or Mentee code 198901 when prompted, and use the instructions located in the “Getting Started as a Mentee” or “Getting Started as a Mentor” document. (Tip: you can cut and paste from an existing bio into the Web site as I did personally.)

Shortly thereafter, mentees will receive instructions on entering their information and guidelines for establishing a mentoring relationship. The Web site is www.3creekmentoring.com/USAirForce/.

Also, please be sure your screen is fully maximized or bottom buttons may not appear. Note that you can limit the number of mentees you are willing to accept, and you can characterize the type of mentoring you are willing to provide. Further, the tools will let you write a mentoring agreement (sort of like a pre-nuptial agreement) outlining the relationship to be established.

We in personnel are excited about this. We have spent over a year benchmarking mentoring processes. When we briefed General Martin, he told us to immediately begin a pilot. When we briefed the worldwide Air Force Mentoring Conference, other major commands quickly recognized the power of this process and asked to be part of our action. I ask you to take a look at this powerful tool. Register, flight test it and then give us your feedback.

Your contribution to this mentoring pilot test is critical to the success of the command and the development of our future leaders. We look forward to your participation in the Mission-Driven Mentoring pilot.

For help at Kirtland AFB, call Vita Kelley, 846-9561, or Mark Mora at 846-8957. The military point of contact is 2nd Lt. Benjamin Biddell, 846-7338.

Full gear vs. fool’s gear

Minimum gear needed to ride motorcycle on base after July 1

BY TECH. SGT. HOWARD T. BAILEY
377th Air Base Wing Ground Safety

One might argue that motorcycles are safer to operate on the roadway than a four-wheeled vehicle. This may be true... until an accident occurs.

Motorcycle operators may have a greater advantage of avoiding an accident because they can execute an evasive maneuver with their smaller vehicle and avoid an accident altogether.

However, if an evasive maneuver is not enough to get the motorcycle operator out of harms way, and an accident does occur, the operator doesn’t have the added protection of being buckled into a surrounding four-wheeled vehicle.

Consequently, the resulting injuries are often worse.

So, besides being a cautious and defensive driver, how can a motorcycle rider best increase his or her chances of avoiding serious or even fatal injuries? They can do so by wearing their “full gear” rather than “fool’s gear.” This gear is not only required for motorcycle riders, but also for passengers.

Let’s take a closer look at each item or gear.

Helmet:

★ Although not required by New Mexico State law, helmets must be worn by all who operate a motorcycle on a military installation and by military members whether on or off the installation.

★ As a minimum, helmets must meet standards set forth by the Department of Transportation, Snell Memorial Foundation or the American National Standards Institute.

★ Helmets must be properly worn and fastened.

★ Novelty helmets are for fools and do not meet these standards of protection, nor do they become legal by simply having a DOT decal affixed to them.

However, operators and passengers are encouraged to affix reflective material to their helmets to increase their visibility.

Eye protection:

★ Operators and passengers must wear impact resistant goggles or a full-face shield attached to their helmet.

★ The only exception to the full-face shield requirement is if the motorcycle is equipped with a windshield that is equal in height to, or above, the top of the helmet of the properly upright-seated operator.

Upper Garment:

★ Full gear includes a long sleeved shirt or jacket.

★ During the day, the outer upper garment must be a brightly colored or contrasting vest or jacket.

★ At night, the outer upper garment must be reflective.

★ The outer upper garment must be clearly visible and not covered by a backpack, passenger, etc.

★ Some motorcycle operators may think they look foolish depending on how bright or contrasting their outer upper garment is.

However, by wearing it, they significantly increase their chances of being seen by other drivers who are not looking for a motorcycle approaching them.

Gloves:

★ Full-fingered motorcycle gloves or mittens offer protection and can increase the operator’s comfort.

These gloves or mittens should be carefully selected to ensure they offer proper grip characteristics rather than the risk of slippage.

Long trousers:

★ Long trousers must be worn to protect the legs from burns and possible road rash.

★ Only a fool would operate a motorcycle while wearing shorts.

Sturdy footwear:

★ Wearing leather boots or over-the ankle shoes can properly protect the feet. Wearing sandals or flip-flops can interfere with proper operation of the motorcycle and result in foolish and unnecessary injury.

★ Besides wearing the above-mentioned full gear,

all motorcycle operators must possess

- ★ a proper motorcycle license,
- ★ proof of insurance and
- ★ complete Motorcycle Safety Foundation training.

These requirements apply regardless of the operator’s intent to ride or register their motorcycle on a military installation.

Beginning July 1, the 377th Security Forces Squadron will enforce these requirements.

Motorcycle operators not equipped with full gear will not be allowed to enter Kirtland AFB. Motorcycle operators without proper documentation will not be able to obtain a base decal or a visitor’s pass.

Motorcycle operators with questions or a need to attend Motorcycle Safety Foundation training are encouraged to contact the Safety Office, 846-9088 or 853-0794.



Photos by Todd Berenger, composed by Mathew Miller

Staff Sgt. Jonathan R. Collier, 58th Maintenance Operations Squadron, poses next to his motorcycle to demonstrate correct riding gear or “full gear” (left) compared to incorrect riding gear or “fool’s gear” (right). Beginning July 1, the 377th Security Forces Squadron will enforce requirements including the minimum gear needed to ride motorcycles on base. Motorcycle operators not equipped with full gear will not be allowed to enter Kirtland AFB.